

the defenses have been planned by German engineers.

In the Lake Doiran region the British troops and are cooperating with the French captured Detsel, a strategic point. The Bulgarians made energetic counter attacks, and at some places got almost up to the British trenches, but were repulsed with very heavy losses. The British are established on a line west and north of Bekerli and Cidemli, and the Bulgarians are bombarding this line heavily. The British artillery is replying, and the artillery duel has lasted hours already.

On the Struma front, the right of the allied line, the British and French are engaged with the Bulgarians. West of the Struma French repulsed Bulgarian attacks on Puroj Manion, and the British cavalry were fighting to this day in the open, an unusual thing in this war. The British and Bulgarians clashed in the neighborhood of three villages, Kijuri, Barakli and Tashli. The British were dropping bombs from Bulgarian air machines upon several towns with small success.

Advance in Vardar Valley.
The main line of the allied advance into Serbia will be, it is expected, the same as the line of their retreat—the valley of the Vardar. This river, which runs from Ustaka, in Serbia, down to the Gulf of Salonika, affords the only means for an army successfully to penetrate the mountains that separate Greece and Serbia.

It was along the Vardar Valley and through the pass it makes in these mountains that the Allies withdrew into Greece, and it is along the same line that the Vardar where it crosses the border from Serbia into Greece, and thence will be just about at that point. There will be more fighting here.

What part, and how, will be played by the Italians at Avlona, the Albanian seaport, is not yet known. The position at Avlona is separated from the allied position in northern Greece by the mountains. The fighting now commences, and the Italians have conducted their campaign in Albania independently. It is thought here that they will start north of Avlona to try to wrest Monrovia from the Teutonic Powers.

FRENCH PUSH AHEAD.

Take Strongly Organized Wood Between Guillemont and Maurepas.

PARIS, Aug. 20.—Successes for the French on the Somme and at Verdun are announced to-day. The French have taken a strongly organized wood between Guillemont and Maurepas, and with it much war material.

Repeated attacks delivered by the Crown Prince's army against Fleury, the village east of Verdun wrested from the Germans Friday night, broke down under the French attack.

The new advance of the French on the Somme front was made on the part of the allied line north of Hardecourt, where French and British troops were engaged in a battle. It extends still further the allied drive toward Comblies.

The most notable success recently in this advance was the complete destruction of Maurepas, southwest of Comblies, by the French yesterday. This has not yet been announced by the War Office, but is mentioned in despatches from the British front.

With the British squeezing the Germans out of Guillemont and pushing forward wedges north and south of it, Comblies soon will be in the hands of the French. The French are driving toward Comblies from both places, and the Allies already have bitten out a big piece of the railroad from Comblies to Peronne, the French objective.

Victory of the Day.

The wood that the French took today by driving attacks after heavy artillery preparation was "very strongly organized," the official statement declares. Besides trenches dug partly in the earth and partly in the wood, there were underground dugouts where Germans hid, to issue forth and attack the French from the rear. The French, however, cleared them all out, and captured quantities of supplies, machine guns, ammunition and stores of all kinds.

On the Verdun front the French had desperate work to do, but they won. The Crown Prince ordered repeated counter attacks to win back the village.

The French, however, have the knack of fortifying a captured position quickly, and despite the heavy bombardment that preceded the infantry attacks, repulsed them all.

German attacks, artillery and infantry, were made also on the Thiaumont work, between Douaumont and Fleury. The attack came from the northwest of Thiaumont, and the French repulsed the French gain its advance to their artillery and so accurate was the barrage fire that was opened, that the German lines were much thinner where they got in range of the French machine guns.

The machine guns did the rest, and the attack was repulsed with "annihilating losses," according to the statement of the War Office.

Counter Attacks Fail.

Every effort of the Germans to get back the trenches which the British took yesterday and last night failed to-day. German counter attacks were made along the new British front, but without result.

A correspondent with the British armies in France telegraphing on Saturday morning had great drive of the previous day says:

"What two battalions did and how they did it was the most thrilling incident of the last twenty-four hours. A sensational fighting from the Ancre to the Somme. The struggle went on in fresh August weather, with alternate cloudbursts and showers of lightning, rainbows and sunshine.

"All along the line from the south of the Ancre the British left their trenches, while the French went in at it on their right. The time chosen was 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, while the big attacks of July 1 and 14 were in the early morning.

"Two battalions were on the left, with more guns to help them, probably, than any two battalions that ever made a charge. One hundred cannon were engaged in making certain of fire from their front while others were busy with other details of the staff plan. Nothing in the whole offensive was so dramatically staged or came off with greater success.

"The Germans still held on in their old first line trenches, while the British right wing, which was a pivot of the old Contamination and Posieres to the summit of the ridge, burrowing forward as the guns blasted a way.

Elaborate Defences.

"Sharper and sharper grew the angle of the new British line to the old German line, until on the night it looked like a possible for troops to survive in such a salient. Nevertheless, the Germans stuck to those elaborate defences of nearly two years' standing, and with their thirty or forty feet under ground, riveted traverses and every other detail of protection against all kinds of fire which army staffs can devise or labor build.

"Through galleries running from dugout to dugout the Germans had a subway for bringing up relief and food. They led a regular life. At night they went on guard went to bed in their cellars bunked as comfortably as in Pullman, and during the day they played cards if not sent out into shell craters to snipe Britishers. They had their machine guns ready as before should the British attempt to rush their homes.

"Yesterday afternoon British guns were pounding away as usual at this sector, which is called the Leprie redoubt, when the British, thanks to a

new system for taking care of machine guns and with a quick burst of machine artillery preparation covering their charges, appeared on the jump through the doors of their dugouts.

"Through glasses they were visible to observers running about the main of traverses like terriers searching for rats, their bayonets gleaming and puffs of smoke rising as they threw bombs.

"In one capacious dugout, equipped with beds and tables and cupboards, six officers and 120 men surrendered in a body and were marched out after the manner of a crowd caught in a gambling house raided by the police.

"Some managed to escape from their dugouts by underground galleries. Others who could not escape, though surrounded, tried to man their machine guns and were shot down. Still others fought to the death with bayonets and bombs. It is estimated that 2,000 Germans, caught in this trap by less than their own numbers, were accounted for.

"When the correspondent left corps headquarters twelve officers and 600 Germans had been brought in as prisoners, while more were being unearthed from their hiding places.

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PROGRESS OF WAR AS TOLD OFFICIALLY

Germans Battle Violently to Recapture Fleury, but Are Repulsed.

CANNON BUSY ON SOMME

Russians Active All Along Eastern Front, Reporting 600 Prisoners.

PARIS, Aug. 20.—The text of the night communiqué is as follows:

North of the Somme we carried a wood, strongly organized by the enemy, between Guillemont and Maurepas. A large quantity of war material remains in our hands. Our batteries showed great activity on the whole Somme front.

Everywhere else there were gusts of artillery fire, except in the Fleury sector, where the enemy violently bombarded the village.

Germans Active at Verdun.
The afternoon communiqué follows:

The night was calm along the Somme front. On the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) the enemy displayed great activity during the night. After an intense bombardment lasting for several hours, the Germans made various attempts to capture the village of Fleury from us. All their attacks, one of which was extremely violent, were repelled by our fire. The enemy suffered severe losses and left some prisoners in our hands.

At about the same time the Germans attacked our trenches northwest of Thiaumont. Here also our curtain of fire and our machine guns inflicted upon them a sanguinary check.

In Lorraine a surprise attack by the enemy against one of our small posts near Veho was repulsed easily.

British Front Shelled.
LONDON, Aug. 20.—The British official report issued to-night says:

About noon to-day the enemy delivered a strong attack on the Somme, which we have established for about half a mile from the western corner of High Wood. He succeeded in reaching this line in certain points, but was driven out again by our infantry, who immediately reoccupied the trenches. Subsequent hostile attacks broke down under our artillery fire.

North of Bazein-la-Petit we gained a further portion of enemy trenches. The enemy heavily shelled different portions of our front, especially High Wood, Hamel and Mailly. Elsewhere there was nothing of importance.

Despite the low clouds our aircraft fought a very useful work yesterday, communicating with our advanced infantry. One of our aeroplanes, coming down to a low altitude, opened a machine gun fire very effectively on enemy infantry in front line trenches and also on hostile reinforcements coming up communicating trenches.

The following official statement was given out this afternoon:

At some points on our front between the Somme and the Ancre local bombardments were very effective. In one place the enemy made no serious attempt to recover the ground we captured Friday.

On other parts of the line we carried out successful raids, making some captures, including a machine gun, and inflicting a considerable number of casualties on the enemy.

200,000 in Attack.
BERLIN, Aug. 20.—The official statement issued here to-day says:

North of the Somme the fighting gradually decreased in intensity. Near the village of Houdain the fighting continued until evening. Northwest of Pozieres and on both sides of Fourvaux Wood isolated British attacks were repulsed.

Information is now at hand that at least eight British and four French divisions (about 200,000 men) took part in the attack of Friday.

On the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) the enemy yesterday evening repeated his attacks in the Thiaumont-Fleury sector and again penetrated the village of Fleury. Elsewhere he was repulsed. Northwest of Thiaumont Wood and in Chapelle Wood the enemy made attacks with hand grenades which were unsuccessful.

British patrols were repulsed near Fromelles and northwest of Lievin. Near Leintrey we took some prisoners.

Front of Field Marshal von Hindenburg.—On the German, northeast of Djelajatzki, attempts by the Russians to cross the river were frustrated. On both sides of Rudka, "Gorowice," the Russian hand-stead fighting continued. The Russian troops for the world is estimated at 20 per cent. less than last year, although 5 per cent. above the average. The total yield of oats is forecasted for 1916 will be about 25 per cent. less than last year, although 5 per cent. above the average.

East of Kiseliv we ejected the Russians from several advanced trenches. Front of Archduke Charles Francis.—North of the Somme a battle occurred north of the Carpathians.

In the wooded mountains our troops captured Kreta height, south of Zable, and repulsed several counter attacks of the enemy on Magura.

Italian Artillery Busy.
ROME, Aug. 20.—The War Office report to-day says:

In the Ateio Valley actions of the enemy's artillery were repulsed promptly by our batteries. On the Asiago plateau we repulsed some small attacks against our positions on the right bank of the Adige, on the slope of Castelotto, and on the slope of Monte Zebro.

Along the Isarco front rain and mist yesterday caused the artillery to be less active. In the Plava area, near Globna, we repulsed an attack by the enemy and took some prisoners.

600 Prisoners Taken.
PETROGRAD, Aug. 20.—The War Office issued the following report:

In the region west of Lake Nobel German attacks were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy.

On the Ildor River, in the region of the village of Rubensherische, we captured Therische Farm and several heights. There was a stubborn fight for the village of Tobol, which changed hands several times. The enemy remained in our possession. Cossacks launched cavalry attacks on the enemy, killing more than 200 Austrians.

On the right bank of the Asva, south of the village of the Asva, more than 600 of the rank and file, fifteen machine guns, two mine throwers, one searchlight and telephone apparatus.

In the direction of Korosenco (in Hungary three miles from the border) our troops drove back the enemy to the heights west of Jabonitzka, near Voronka, and occupied the heights. On the Blaly-Cheremsh River, in the region of Dolgopol, our detachments pushed back the enemy, thus making a slight advance in the direction of Pereski. In the direction of Kirsaba, to the north, the enemy launched

attacks on the heights. We repulsed these attacks and occupied the heights. Cossacks, from the direction of Diabroki fighting continues, our gallant troops overcoming difficulties presented by the high and almost inaccessible heights, searching for rats, their bayonets gleaming and puffs of smoke rising as they threw bombs.

"In one capacious dugout, equipped with beds and tables and cupboards, six officers and 120 men surrendered in a body and were marched out after the manner of a crowd caught in a gambling house raided by the police.

"Some managed to escape from their dugouts by underground galleries. Others who could not escape, though surrounded, tried to man their machine guns and were shot down. Still others fought to the death with bayonets and bombs. It is estimated that 2,000 Germans, caught in this trap by less than their own numbers, were accounted for.

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